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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/665,715	09/20/2000	Richard Scheel	80398.P331	5599

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EXAMINER

HUYNH, KIM T

ART UNIT PAPER NUMBER

2112

DATE MAILED: 11/15/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/665,715

Applicant(s)

SCHEEL ET AL.

Examiner

Kim T. Huynh

Art Unit

2112

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 06 August 2004.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-20 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-20 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 20 September 2000 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

1. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

2. Claims 1-20 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by James et al. (US Patent 6,584,539)

As per claims 1,15,18, James discloses a method of maintaining communications in a bus bridge interconnect comprising a plurality of buses linked by at least one bus bridge, the method comprising: (col.2, lines 37-52)

- Receiving a change indication signal from a talker node; (col.4, lines 32-40)
- Performing an address resolution protocol in response to the change indication signal to find an updated node identification address (nodeID) for a listener node using a extended unique identifier(EUI) of the listener node; and (col.15, line 18-col.16, line 11)
- Storing the updated listener nodeID with the listener node EUI. (col.3, lines 27-42)

As per claim 2, discloses transmitting a signal including the updated nodeID for the listener to the listener. (col.7, lines 4-37)

As per claim 3, discloses wherein performing an address resolution protocol comprises examining a bus bridge to see what buses exist, searching each bus until a matching EUI is found, and identifying the nodeID associated with the matching EUI. (col.15,lines 35-48), (col.7, lines 4-37)

As per claim 4, discloses wherein the change indication signal is a net change signal. (col.17, lines 25-47), (col.5, line 18-col.16, line 11)

As per claim 5, discloses wherein the buses are similar to a version of the IEEE standard 1394 bus. (col.3, lines 51-67)

As per claim 6, discloses wherein the updated listener nodeID and listener node EUI are stored in a bus bridge portal. (col.5, lines 18-60)

As per claim 7, 11, 16-17, 19-20 discloses a method of maintaining communications in a bus bridge interconnect comprising a plurality of buses linked by at least one bus bridge, the method comprising:

- Receiving a signal from a talker node at a controller node; (col.4, lines 32-40)
- Transmitting the signal from the controller node to a listener node with an updated controller nodeID as the source nodeID and the controller node EUI as the source EUI; (col.15, line 18-col.16, line 11)
- Searching the listener node memory for the controller node EUI; (col.7, lines 4-37)

- Comparing, if the received controller node EUI matches a stored controller node EUI, the received controller nodeID to a stored controller nodeID associated with the stored controller node EUI; and (col.3, lines 27-42)
- Replacing the stored controller nodeID with the received controller nodeID in the listener node memory if the received controller nodeID does not match the stored controller nodeID. (col.15, line 18-col.16, line 11)

As per claims 8, 12, discloses the method further comprising transmitting a reply signal including the updated nodeID and the EUI of the controller node. (col.15, line 18-col.16, line 11)

As per claims 9, 13, discloses the method further comprising discarding the received message if the received controller node EUI does not match a stored controller node EUI. (col.15, line 18-col.16, line 11)

As per claims 10, 14, wherein the buses are similar to a version of the IEEE standard 1394 bus. (col.3, lines 51-67)

Response to Amendment

3. Applicant's amendment filed on 8/6/04 have been fully considered but does not place the application in condition for allowance.

a. In response to applicant's argument that James does not teach or suggest the change indication signal to find an updated node identification address for a listener node using a Extended unique identifier (EUI) of the listener node. Examiner respectfully disagrees. As James notes at (col.9, lines 22-55, Examiner further cited for clarification), discloses each node has net-unique node ID, a net-changed indication is

broadcast to all nodes. At (col.15, lines 35-48), James discloses a broadcast messages to all nodes and trigger the return of information from multiple nodes. Within the interconnect, a broadcast protocol that returns selected node addresses is referred to as address resolution protocol (ARP). The information received from multiple nodes triggered by supplying the EUI of the portal or node as the broadcast message is passed along. Thus, the prior art teaches the invention as claimed and the claims do not distinguish over the prior art as applied. Therefore, it is properly stated in the rejection of record.

b. In response to applicant's argument that James does not disclose or suggest the memory of a listener node is searched for any EUI stored in the listener's memory. Examiner respectfully disagrees. As James notes at (col.3, lines 38-42), each node generates an appended message by one appending an extended unique identifier (EUI) to the message. Once the appended message is received at the initiating node, the appended message is saved. A message is initiated and forwarded to neighbor node. Furthermore at col.9, lines 48-56, James discloses the net sequence actions that assign busID and establish the bus bridge routing tables. Thus, the prior art teaches the invention as claimed and the claims do not distinguish over the prior art as applied. Therefore, it is properly stated in the rejection of record.

Conclusion

4. THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL. Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the mailing date of this final action.


Conclusion

5. *Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Kim Huynh whose telephone number is (571)272-3635 or via e-mail addressed to [kim.huynh3@uspto.gov]. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F 9.00AM- 6:00PM.*

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Mark Rinehart can be reached on (571)272-3632 or via e-mail addressed to [mark.rinehart@uspto.gov]. The fax phone numbers for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned are (703)872-9306 for regular communications and After Final communications.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is (571)272-2100.

Kim Huynh
Nov. 9, 2004



TIMVO
PRIMARY EXAMINER